

## Message Text

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72

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 NEA-10 SY-10 SCS-03 CAB-09

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00

PA-03 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 DRC-01 /089 W

----- 124190

R 180937Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6653

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGKOK 14566

E.O 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, VS, TH

SUBJECT: EXPLOSION ON AIR VIETNAM FLIGHT

REF: STATE 178777

1. THE INFO THAT FOLLOWS WAS DEVELOPED FROM NEWS ARTICLES ON THE EXPLOSION AND A CALL ON THAI CIVIL AIR AUTHORITIES. EMB SAIGON MAY HAVE SUPPLEMENTARY INFO. ON THE CENTRAL ISSUE, THE CAUSE OF THE EXPLOSION, BOTH THE PRESS AND OFFICIAL THAI SOURCES ARE VERY UNCLEAR. OFFICIAL THAI INVESTIGATORS HAVE COMPLAINED THAT AIR VIETNAM HAS REFUSED THEM PERMISSION TO CONDUCT AN ADEQUATE INVESTIGATION, A THEME REPEATED IN THE PRESS AS WELL.

2. ANSWERS GIVEN BELOW CORRESPOND WITH NUMBERS USED FOR QUESTIONS RAISED IN REFTTEL.

A) 17:05 BANGKOK TIME 5 SEPT. 1973 - 19 MINUTES AFTER THE FLIGHT LEFT BANGKOK.

B) 54 PASSENGERS:REW NA

C) AIR STEWARDESS:

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NGO THI THANH MAI - BROKEN RIGHT ELBOW, AND 8-INCH

GASH CAUSED BY SHRAPNEL-LIKE METAL FRAGMENT. FRAGMENT, WHICH WAS EMBEDDED IN HER ARM, HAD TO BE REMOVED SURGICALLY. MISS MAI WAS IN A BANGKOK HOSPITAL FOR THREE DAYS.

INJURED PASSENGERS

MRS. HANS HAERRY - MINOR CUTS TO THE HEAD  
URSULA HAERRY (10 YRS.) - BURNS TO THE HANDS AND  
HENRI TOULA HAERRY (7 YRS.) - WRIST WOUND.  
ALL WERE RELEASED AFTER RECEIVING TREATMENT.

1) BOEING 727

E) NA

F) LOCAL AND LIMITED DAMAGE; NO ESTIMATES AVAILABLE

G) 15,000 FT.

H) NA

I) THE EXPLOSION OCCURRED IN THE COFFEE HEATER AND IN THE COMPARTMENT AREA FOR WARMING MEALS IN THE GALLEY.

(1) THE GALLEY IS LOCATED ON THE RIGHT SIDE

(2) IN THE FRONT 1/3 OF THE PLANE

(3) NA  
UNGER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS, CASUALTIES, PASSENGERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 18 SEP 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973BANGKO14566  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** BANGKOK  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730928/aaaaauqt.tel  
**Line Count:** 92  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** STATE 178777  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 DEC 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <05-Dec-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <27-Dec-2001 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
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EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** EXPLOSION ON AIR VIETNAM FLIGHT  
**TAGS:** ETRN, VS, TH, AIR VIETNAM  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005